

We are all indebted to Raven for compiling
this information.

Pass it on!



TRANZMISION

IS: A group dedicated to the end of
socially enforced non-consensual
gender tyranny.

OUR ACTIVISM GOALS ARE:

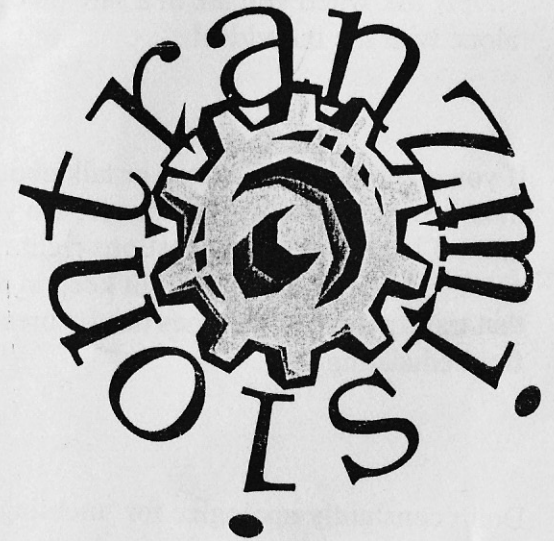
Community Building
Awareness Raising
Freedom Fighting

WE INCLUDE:

Everyone MtF, FtM, Queer
GenderQueer, Les/Bi/Gay/Straight
All allies cheerfully welcomed!!!!

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so you
want to be
a good ally...

1 A guide for those of us who find ourselves
in close friendships or relationships with

When a close friend, family member, or
partner is trans, allies may find themselves
asking a lot of questions, and sensitivity is
the key. The trans people in our lives have
so much to share with us as they often
challenge many of our socially imposed
notions about gender, identity and 'nature'
(just to name a few). As such, a good ally
can be invaluable, providing support and
understanding. However, at times allies may
feel as though they are walking a tightrope
when it comes to asking personal questions,
intervening in possibly painful situations, or
simply making assumptions about trans
communities. Here is a list of some things to
think about when these feelings arise:

Never assume someone's gender or preferred pronoun. If you are not sure, simply ask when you are in a safe place or alone with the individual

If you want to ask questions or talk about trans issues, first ask if it is okay: "Do you mind if I ask you some questions right now?" (Usually it is okay, but keep in mind that trans people sometimes need a break from educating)

Don't constantly apologize for 'messaging' pronouns, trans people often understand that it can take a while for some people. It's the effort that counts.

Don't compare one's gender presentation to the gender they identify as (i.e. "But you look so much like a boy/girl")

Don't assume that someone should act or look a certain way because they are trans. There are many different ways to express a gender (not all trans women wear dresses, some transmen do).

Many trans people may not pass as the gender they identify with.

Don't determine if someone is 'really' trans enough by how well they pass or how much they 'try'. Everyone has different levels of passing and expression.

Don't assume that someone will or won't, should or shouldn't take hormones. do not speak against their decision, even if you do not agree with it. It is okay to ask questions or bring up concern, but leave room for the individual to express why they do or do not want to take them. It can be a very confusing decision to make and may result in a loss of trust or support.

Never 'Out' a trans person if you don't know for sure if it's okay for others to know. (i.e. Not everyone is out to their family, coworkers, etc. Outing someone can be a potentially uncomfortable or dangerous situation.)

Don't assume someone's gender identity determines their sexual preference.

Not all trans people are white. Not all trans people are wealthy. Not all trans people are gay. Not all trans people are polyamorous. Not all trans people are young. Not all trans people fit into a gender box.

Please accept that trans people, just like non-trans people, all possess different ways of expressing gender with differing amounts of gender fluidity.

Don't assume that trans people are the only people that can/will educate about trans issues. Although trans folks are willing to talk about it, sometimes it can be emotionally draining. Don't make it trans people's job, read books or ask an ally.

Although we know that there is nothing hotter than fucking with gender and no one does it better than trans people, trans people should never be reduced to exotic fetishes. They are people just like you.

Just like with any minority group it is annoying and frustrating to be tokenized.

Try to be aware that sometimes for trans people, certain everyday situations that might be totally normal or comfortable for those who are more normatively gendered can be particularly scary or threatening. For example, choosing bathrooms or how others are reading one's gender can be everyday tasks. Here's where everyday support is crucial as it is important not to trivialize someone's experience.

Don't assume that just because someone is trans that they will know or like someone else that you know who is trans.